AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended) A vector carrying a polynucleotide ~~according to claim 49~~ comprising:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 23;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding a fragment of at least 10 amino acids of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 24; or

(c) a polynucleotide having at least 90% sequence homology to the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 23 over 30 contiguous amino acids;

wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having the ability to stimulate an immune response against the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 24.

52. (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 51 which is an expression vector.

53. (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 52 wherein said polynucleotide is operably linked to a control sequence which is capable of providing for the expression of the coding sequence of the polynucleotide.

54. (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 51 which comprises one or more components selected from the group consisting of an origin of replication, a promoter for expression of the polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide, a regulator of a promoter for expression of the polypeptide encoded by said polypeptide, an enhancer and a selectable marker gene.

55. (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 54 wherein said promoter is a mammalian, viral, yeast or bacterial promoter.

56. (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 55 wherein said promoter is selected from the group consisting of: a metallothionien promoter, an adenovirus promoter, the SV40 large T promoter, a retroviral LTR promoter, the polyhedrin promoter, an alcohol dehydrogenase promoter and a β-galactosidase promoter.

57. (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 51 which is adapted for use *in vivo*.

58. (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 51 which is a plasmid, virus or phage vector.

59. (Previously Presented) A vector according to claim 58 wherein said viral vector is selected from the group consisting of retroviral vectors, adenoviral vectors,

adeno-associated viral vectors, vaccinia virus vectors, herpes virus vector and alpha virus vectors.

60. (Previously Presented) A host cell comprising, transformed with or transfected by a vector according to claim 51.

61. (Previously Presented) A host cell according to claim 60 which is a bacterial, yeast, insect or mammalian cell.

62. (Previously Presented) A host cell according to claim 61 which is selected from the group consisting of *M. bovis* BCG, *M. smegmatis*, a mycobacterium, *Corynebacteria* and *Salmonella*.

63. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising ~~a polynucleotide according to claim 49~~

(a) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 24;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding a fragment of at least 10 amino acids of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 24; or

a polynucleotide having at least 90% sequence homology to the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 23 over 30 contiguous amino acids;

wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having the ability to stimulate an immune response against the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 24;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

64. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a vector according to claim 51 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

65. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a host cell according to claim 60 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

66. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method of raising an immune response in an animal or human against a mycobacterium, which method comprises administering an effective amount of a vector according to claim 51~~polynucleotide according to claim 49, wherein said polynucleotide is capable of expressing a polypeptide selected from:~~

~~(i) a polypeptide according to SEQ ID NO: 24;~~

~~(ii) a polypeptide comprising a polypeptide according to (i);~~

~~(iii) a polypeptide having at least 70% amino acid identity to a polypeptide of (i) over 30 or more contiguous amino acids, which retains the ability to stimulate an immune response against said mycobacterium; or~~

~~(iv) a fragment of a polypeptide of (i) comprising at least 10 amino acids which retains the ability to stimulate an immune response against said mycobacterium~~

to said human or animal and allowing said polypeptide to be expressed.

67. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method according to claim 66 wherein said ~~polynucleotide is provided in a~~ vector is an expression vector~~, operably linked to a control sequence which is capable of providing for the expression of said polypeptide from said vector~~.

68. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[67]] 66 wherein said vector is a plasmid, virus or phage vector.

69. (Withdrawn) A method of enhancing the response of an animal or human infected with a mycobacterium to treatment with an antimycobacterial drug, which comprises raising an immune response in said animal or human according to claim 66.

70. (new) A vector according to claim 51 wherein said polynucleotide comprises the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 23.

71. (new) A composition according to claim 63 wherein said polynucleotide comprises the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 23.

72. (new) A vector carrying a polynucleotide comprising:

(a) a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 24;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding a fragment of at least 10 amino acids of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 24; or

(c) a polynucleotide having at least 90% sequence homology to the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 23 over 30 contiguous amino acids;

wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide which binds to antibodies that bind to the polypeptides of SEQ ID NO: 24.

73. (new) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 23.